

Feb. 7, 1953

# AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

*Published by the Information Department of*  
**THE AUSTRIAN CONSULATE GENERAL**

ONTARIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARY  
MAR 14 1953  
**RECEIVED**

31 EAST 69th STREET • NEW YORK 21, N.Y. • TELEPHONE: LEHIGH 5-4120

VOL. VI, NO. 3

February 7, 1953

**NATIONAL CHAIRMAN RAAB OPENS PEOPLE'S PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN.** In mid-January, National Chairman Julius Raab of the Austrian People's Party opened his party's election campaign at a conference of party workers in Vienna by announcing that the OeVP slogan would be: "Vote With Responsibility — Vote for the Austrian People's Party."

Chairman Raab outlined the party's policy as follows: "Everything depends on maintaining a balanced budget, for only thus can the value of the schilling be safeguarded. Economic stability is the sole basis on which a general increase in the living standard of the people can be achieved, and it alone can create the necessary conditions for easing the tax burden, readjusting civil-service salary classifications, improving the lot of the impoverished middle class and promoting art and science on a large scale."

**CHANCELLOR FIGL CALLS FOR EXPANSION OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC-POWER FACILITIES TO CREATE WORK.** In the course of an election speech at the end of January, Chancellor Leopold Figl (People's Party) said: "We here in Austria have considerable resources of electric energy whose exploitation must be expanded for the greater benefit of Europe. Such a program costs billions of schillings, a sum which the Austrian people are not in a position to raise. Do you think that the world will give Austria these billions if there is disorder and confusion in our country? In drawing the attention of the world to these problems, we were doing something constructive, for the actual result was that a preliminary conference was convened in Innsbruck at which Italians, Swiss, Frenchmen and West Germans expressed interest in the establishment of a European electric power pool, favored the expansion of our hydroelectric resources and undertook to buy our power. This represents a source of employment for many years to come, but it is predicated on a sound currency. That is the decision the Austrian voter faces today."

#### **Unemployment Due to Faulty Investments and Inflation**

The Austrian Chancellor emphasized that all the domestic problems facing the country today — such as the reorganiza-

*Cont'd on page 4)*

**VICE CHANCELLOR SCHAEF OPENS SOCIALIST PARTY ELECTION CAMPAIGN.** Vice Chancellor Leopold Schaerf formally opened the election campaign of the Austrian Socialist Party at a party conference in Vienna in mid-January.

In his report to the party officials, Dr. Schaerf said, in part: "If everyone in Austria today can freely practice the religion of his choice and can speak and write as he pleases, it is thanks to the factory workers and office employees who in the fall of 1950 opposed the Communist coup with their own bodies. What our own resources have enabled us to do for the protection of liberty and democracy we have done. All plots and attempts to introduce in our country that system of bondage which afflicts the so-called 'People's Democracies' have been foiled and defeated, above all by the workers under the leadership of the Socialist Party and Socialist trade-union leaders."

**LIVELIHOOD OF AUSTRIAN WAGE EARNERS DEPENDS ON CONTINUED GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS, SAYS MINISTER WALDBRUNNER.** In the course of an election broadcast over the Red-White-Red radio network at the end of January, Austria's Minister of Communications, Ing. Karl Waldbrunner (Socialist), declared: "In spite of basic differences in political outlook, the two coalition parties cooperated well together until about a year ago, when the People's Party began to regret this collaboration. It characterized social-welfare legislation as waste and sided against the reconstruction and overhauling of our economy and against the hotly-debated investment program — which will continue to require considerable outlays for many years precisely because of the extent of the damage — as an unbearable burden."

"And yet," Minister Waldbrunner continued, "on the continuation and completion of these projects depends not only today's full employment but tomorrow's livelihood of the wage earner. The achievement of political independence and economic reconstruction was made possible only because the overwhelming majority of our people joined hands in a common effort, and it was thus, under irresistible pressure, that the collaboration of the two leading parties (the People's and Socialist parties - Ed.) came into being."

**THE FREE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE POLITICAL STABILITY OF AUSTRIA, SAYS FOREIGN MINISTER GRUBER.** In mid-January, Foreign Minister Karl Gruber (People's Party) told an election rally that "the recognition of Austria by the whole world, and the sympathy and assistance she has received from free nations

#### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

## **AUSTRIAN TRADE BULLETIN**

On Page 9

Published by the  
Austrian Trade Delegate

everywhere, did not just materialize out of thin air, but was an expression of the great confidence these nations have in the Austrian people, their government and the stability of their political institutions." Dr. Gruber said that the people of Austria had succeeded in preserving their country's unity, and that it was this most important achievement of political regeneration that had made economic reconstruction possible at all.

#### **Austria Cannot Be Converted to Bolshevism, Russians Told**

"I have repeatedly made it clear to Soviet diplomats," the Austrian Foreign Minister continued, "that the Austrian people reject Communism and that it was a vain attempt, from the Russian standpoint, to try to convert them to Bolshevism. The day the Soviets realize and recognize this fact will also be the day — long overdue — when our strained relations with the Soviet Union will be eased."

In closing, Dr. Gruber spoke of the future in these words: "We must obtain complete freedom for Austria, but we must be on guard lest the Communists and other enemies of Austria maneuver us into a 'neutral' position, which could ultimately enable them to seize power on the example of what happened in Czechoslovakia and Hungary."

#### **Hungarian and Czech People Watch Developments in Austria**

"The importance of Austria's position in today's power struggle," Dr. Gruber said, "is a factor which must also be kept in mind. The people of Hungary and Czechoslovakia are not interested so much in how people in New York and Washington live, but in how people in Austria and the Austrian provinces live. We must constantly remember that the war which started some forty years ago has practically not ended and that we are still living in a period of evolution. What we need is some solid ground under our feet — a foundation on which Austria, Central Europe and perhaps even the entire European Continent can develop a new spirit of self-assertion."

*Readers are invited to reprint or quote any material from  
AUSTRIAN INFORMATION*

**WALTER LIPPMANN SUGGESTS VIENNA FOR POSSIBLE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS.** In his syndicated column which appears in the Washington Post and the New York Herald Tribune, Walter Lippmann suggested on January 13 that the Austrian capital may be a better seat for the headquarters of the United Nations.

"Let us consider Vienna," the well-known columnist wrote, "with the Austrian Republic evacuated by the armies of occupation and free under a treaty made with all the members of the United Nations, dedicating it perpetually to the principles of the Charter and of the institutions based upon those principles."

Mr. Lippmann concluded his article as follows: "It is an anomaly that the headquarters of a universal institution be located in New York rather than in a small nation, one not itself a factor in the power politics of the world. The time may come when the U.N. can be saved only by correcting that initial mistake."

**WESTERN POWERS CALL ON SOVIET UNION TO RENEW AUSTRIAN TREATY NEGOTIATIONS.** On January 12, 1953, Great Britain, France and the United States called upon the Soviet Union to resume at once negotiations on the Austrian State Treaty. In identical notes delivered by their ambassadors in Moscow, the Western Powers cited the appeal of the United Nations General Assembly that renewed efforts be made to terminate the occupation of Austria as soon as possible. The three Western Powers further expressed the belief that to resume the negotiations by the special deputies would be more to the point than to continue a futile exchange of notes on the subject.

On January 14 the United States issued an invitation to Russia to attend a Big-Four deputies meeting in London on January 30 because it is the turn of the American deputy to be chairman of the meeting. At the end of January the Soviet Union replied that it would reject this invitation unless the Western Powers withdrew their abbreviated treaty draft.

On January 29 the United States, Great Britain and France sent a joint note to Moscow, U.S. Deputy High Commissioner to Austria Walter Dowling, who is also chairman of the treaty deputies, declared that the United States "reiterates its readiness to discuss the State Treaty question without prior conditions" and suggested February 6 as the date for a meeting to resume the talks.

**BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ZEELAND IN VIENNA TO SIGN TRADE TREATY.** On January 26 President Theodor Koerner of Austria received Belgian Foreign Minister Paul van Zeeland who had come to Vienna on an official visit. M. van Zeeland then saw Chancellor Figl, Vice Chancellor Schaerf and Foreign Minister Gruber.

After the two foreign ministers had signed the new Austrian-Belgian trade treaty, M. van Zeeland declared that Belgium was happy to have thus had the opportunity to further strengthen relations between the two friendly nations,

**AMBASSADOR LOEWENTHAL PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT BATISTA.** On January 13, 1953, Dr. Max Loewenthal-Chlumsky, the Austrian Ambassador to the United States, presented his credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Havana to General Don Fulgencio Batista y Zaldívar of the Republic of Cuba.

**FOREIGN MINISTER GRUBER PLANS TO VISIT BONN IN MARCH.** Austrian Foreign Minister Gruber and West-German Chancellor Adenauer recently exchanged telegrams on Dr. Gruber's contemplated trip to Bonn.

In his message the Austrian Foreign Minister said: "Please accept my sincere thanks for your invitation to visit Bonn, which has long been my special wish. Unfortunately, it is not possible for me to leave Austria at this time because of my work in connection with the preparation of the coming elections. But I hope that the visit can be made immediately after the elections."

In his reply, Dr. Adenauer cabled: "I fully understand your reasons for postponing your visit. I would greatly welcome your being able to accept my invitation to visit Bonn after the elections, in March, and am looking forward to the pleasure of continuing the talks begun in Paris."



**AUSTRIAN FEDERATION OF LABOR CALLS FOR COUNTERMEASURES TO CHECK "DEFLATIONARY TENDENCIES."** In mid-January, the executive committee of the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions and the presidents of the Chambers of Labor conferred on various aspects of the country's economic situation. Two resolutions were adopted by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting. In the first of these the Federation went on record as favoring the following measures:

1. Discontinuance of further payroll cutbacks in trade and industry;
2. Issuance of treasury certificates in the amount of 250,000,000 schillings and immediate use of the funds so obtained for public investment projects;
3. Immediate public investment of an additional 140,000,000 schillings now awaiting final approval, out of the recent release of Counterparts amounting to 500 million schillings;
4. Reduction of the bank rate and of credit costs, which are excessively high;
5. Ease liquidity regulations for financial and credit institutes;

The Federation further called for a new investment policy calculated to create additional permanent jobs, so as to bring the Austrian economy closer to lasting full employment.

#### Landlords' Demands Rejected

In the second resolution, the Federation stated that the Apartment Assignment Law would have to be retained as long as the housing shortage continued, for otherwise apartments would become objects of exchange to an even greater extent than heretofore. A general rent increase - even if "intended for later application" - is out of the question in the opinion of the Federation, since such an increase would of necessity seriously upset the stability of the country's economy. The higher revenues from real-estate holdings which landlords have been receiving since rents were adjusted upwards in 1951 must really be used for keeping the houses in a state of good repair, as the law actually required.

#### LABOR FEDERATION PRESIDENT CRITICIZES FINANCE MINISTER ON WINTER EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM.

The "Arbeiter-Zeitung" recently reported that President Boehm (Socialist) of the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions accused Minister of Finance Kamitz (People's Party) of having issued a decree which, in effect, would have the result of bringing all major public investment projects to a standstill for many months to come. "What is now required," President Boehm told an election meeting, "is to begin putting into effect, without any further delay, the winter emergency relief program about which there has been so much talk and negotiation during the past few months."

The labor leader went on to say: "We can still head off an 'avalanche of social disaster' in Austria, but the measures to do so must be taken at once. We cannot wait until February 22 (i.e. Election Day - Ed.). The decisions recently adopted by the Minister of Finance are bound to have catastrophic consequences. There is a real danger that what we have achieved over many years of hard work and honest effort may be jeopardized in a few months."

**UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION SHOULD NOT BE MADE THE SUBJECT OF PARTISAN POLITICS, SAYS FINANCE MINISTER KAMITZ.** In a recent article in the "Neue Wiener Tageszeitung," Minister of Finance Kamitz (People's Party) discussed Austria's unemployment situation, which has become a hotly debated issue in the current election campaign. The following are excerpts from his article:

"During the past few weeks the Socialist Party has concentrated its campaign fire on the unemployment problem. In our program (i.e. that of the Austrian People's Party - Ed.), we have gone on record as favoring a constructive and long-range employment policy. Today there is talk of 250,000 unemployed, but such demagogic arguments will fool no one, for this figure merely represents all those who have registered for employment and includes individuals who have hitherto turned down jobs because they felt that the value of the money was too low. But now they are eager to work because the currency is worth more."

#### Employment Level Not Appreciably Lower

"There is no denying," the Finance Minister continued, "that the transition from inflation to stabilization is bound to create a certain measure of friction. But what are the facts? At the height of unemployment in 1950, the number of gainfully employed totalled 1,825,000. In 1951, the level of employment had reached 1,848,000; in February 1952, it stood at 1,846,000 and last December the total number of employed was 1,845,000. As these figures indicate, there has been no appreciable drop in the overall level of employment. I strongly take exception to such partisan political use of the unfortunate lot of those who are out of work. By simplifying export procedures and adopting modern production methods in certain of the nationalized industries, the People's Party will make available financial reserves that are at present blocked, and thereby provide everyone with bread and work."

**ECONOMIC STABILITY IS INSURANCE AGAINST SYSTEM OF 'PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY', AUSTRIAN MINISTER OF TRADE DECLARES.** In a speech to the Trades and Crafts Association in mid-January Minister of Trade Boeck-Greissau said, referring to the economies of the "People's Democracies," that "a controlled state economy must of necessity lead to a police-state economy if for no other reason than because of production controls."

The Minister of Trade then spoke of the satisfactory development of Austria's foreign trade, which he said he would continue to promote. The output of the small crafts industry would be more intensely geared to export markets.

Whether Austria would continue to remain a bastion against the system of people's democracy would depend on how the international situation developed. Already on one occasion Stalin had said that those who want to destroy the bourgeois world must first destroy its monetary system. Therefore any backsliding on the road to inflation would completely cancel out all the gains made up to date.

Referring to trade with the East, the Minister pointed out that whereas wheat could be bought for \$80 in the West, the countries of Eastern Europe were demanding \$105 to \$110.

**CONTROVERSY BETWEEN COALITION PARTNERS INTENSIFIED AS ELECTION CAMPAIGN PROGRESSES.** In an election speech in Salzburg, Julius Raab, the National Chairman of the People's Party, levelled a series of campaign accusations against the Socialists which were answered by the latter's Chairman, Vice Chancellor Adolf Schaerf, at a subsequent election rally.

Raab charged that inherent in the Socialist program was the danger of collectivization and, as a result, the end of personal freedom. "We would be acting contrary to our conscience," he said, "were we to allow ourselves to be shackled to the coalition partner in the same relationship as heretofore, for we must realize that by electing a Socialist Chancellor, however great his integrity may be, we would be opening ajar the door through which the system of 'People's Democracy' could force its way into Austria. In Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and other countries, Socialist government chiefs sooner or later smoothed the way for Communism, even if against their will — which does not change the end result. It is not a coincidence that the colors of the People's Party are red-white-red and not only red with three arrows (banner of the Socialist Party - Ed.) or with the hammer and sickle (Communist Party - Ed.)"

Vice Chancellor Schaerf of the Socialist Party replied as follows to these attacks: "(People's) Party Chairman Raab recently declared that a government without the OeVP would mean the downfall of Austria. But the truth of the matter is that the Socialist Party has twice raised Austria from the ruins of war - in 1918 and in 1945. On these occasions the Christian-Socialist Party and later the People's Party merely assisted the late President of Austria, Dr. Renner. However, there was one time when Austria was really plunged into the precipice and that was in 1938 (occupation of Austria by Germany - Ed.). But then there were no Social-Democrats in the government. Without the Socialists, Austria has already been plunged into the precipice once. With the Socialists, there has always been progress. Austria can live without the People's Party, but never without the Socialist Party."

**SOVIETS PREVENT SEIZURE OF FAKE 100-SCHILLING NOTES DISTRIBUTED BY COMMUNISTS AS ELECTION CAMPAIGN MATERIAL.** The "Wiener Zeitung" reported that at the end of January Vienna police headquarters ordered the confiscation of an election leaflet made to resemble a 100-schilling bank note which the Austrian "People's Opposition" (i.e. Communist-Ed.) movement had issued as campaign literature. Because of objections on the part of Soviet military headquarters, the seizure orders could not be carried out.

Inasmuch as Austrian police authorities in the various Soviet districts of Vienna were prevented from taking action by the local Russian commanders, the Police Commissioner of Vienna requested Soviet headquarters representatives to agree to seizure of the plates and all existing stocks of the leaflet.

**SOVIETS DEMAND INORDINATE AMOUNT OF RADIO TIME FOR COMMUNIST ELECTION CAMPAIGN.** The "Neue Tageszeitung" recently reported that the Soviet occupation

authorities were interfering with the Austrian radio network's programming of campaign broadcasts with a view to obtaining more air time for the Austrian Communist party in connection with the elections on February 22.

Lt. Col. Shishkin, the Russian Radio Officer in Vienna, is said to have demanded that the RAVAG radio station allow the Communist-dominated "People's Opposition" ticket the same amount of broadcast time as is being granted the People's and Socialist parties, in spite of the fact that the Communists have much fewer seats in Parliament (in fact, only 5). This Soviet demand makes no allowance for the fact that the "Russian Hour" already has sixteen hours of radio time every week for propagandizing the ideology of the Cominform to Austrian radio listeners.

**RUSSIANS ACCEDE TO UNION REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF TWO AUSTRIAN ENGINEERS.** On November 26, 1952, two Austrian engineers employed at the USIA (Soviet-controlled) plant of the AEG-Union in Stadlau were arrested and detained "at the disposal of the Soviet occupying power." Subsequent intervention by the Union of Private Industry Employees — which took the matter to all competent authorities, including Soviet military headquarters — finally resulted in their release.

**AUSTRIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE KAMITZ VISITS PREMIER DE GASPERI.** Dr. Reinhard Kamitz, the Austrian Minister of Finance, visited Premier de Gasperi at the end of January while in Rome for a series of economic and financial talks with Italy's ministers of trade and finance. During his stay in the Italian capital, Dr. Kamitz delivered a speech on economic questions at the Institute for International Cooperation.

**SPOKESMEN OF COALITION PARTIES DISCUSS SOCIAL-SECURITY PENSIONS ON RED-WHITE-RED NETWORK.** In mid-January, Minister of Social Welfare Maisel (Socialist) and Undersecretary of State for the Interior Graf (People's Party) discussed the issue of social-security pensions on the Red-White-Red radio network.

Minister Maisel said, in part: "In Austria, women receive an old-age pension at the age of sixty. Widows of

---

#### *Figl on Hydroelectric Power (Cont'd from page 1)*

tion of the civil service, the adjustment of job classifications and salaries, the overhauling and simplification of the tax structure, the general easing of conditions in trade and industry — could be solved only after the creation of a stable currency and conditions of general stability. "The Socialists contend that today's unemployment is the result of the cautious policy pursued by the People's Party and its Minister of Finance," Dr. Figl continued, "but this development has been brought about by faulty investments and by creeping inflation. When the transition is made from inflation to stability, a certain gap in employment is bound to result. The decisive factor is that this gap is a short one. We can attain genuine full employment and ban unemployment only if stable conditions prevail for an actively progressive economy."



workers receive the same benefits as widows of office employees. But these greater benefits were made possible only by increasing federal contributions to the social-security program from 25 to 30 per cent. Now, the People's Party favors a cutback of the state's share to 25%, which would reduce the amounts paid into the social-security pension funds by 150,000,000 schillings annually."

Undersecretary Graf defended his party's policy on the pension question as follows: "Dr. Kamitz is the first Austrian Minister of Finance since 1918 to have succeeded in increasing the benefits paid to pre-World War I pensioners to the same level as those being paid under post-World War I social-security provisions. In spite of financial difficulties, he has raised an additional 116,000,000 schillings for 1953 for this purpose."

**AUSTRIAN UNIVERSITY ELECTIONS REFLECT NO GREAT CHANGE IN POLITICAL ALIGNMENTS.** At the end of January "Die Presse" reported that Austria's college and university elections resulted in a clear-cut victory (49.4% of the total vote) for the "Wahlblock" (electoral bloc affiliated with the People's Party-Ed.). The "Ring" (affiliated with the League of Independents-Ed.) obtained 32% of the vote and the Socialists 16.5%. The Vienna daily concludes from these figures that the elections produced fewer surprises than had been anticipated. The Communists lost more than 40% of their followers and have thus become an insignificant splinter group without a single mandate to their name. The comparatively high percentage of students who bothered to vote indicates that Austria's university and college students are again more keenly concerned about their self-government.

**WHAT IS THE GREATEST DANGER TO AUSTRIA'S PROSPEROUS DEVELOPMENT?** This question was answered as follows in the columns of the "Wiener Kurier" at the end of January by Dr. Alfred Maleta, General Secretary of the Austrian People's Party, on the one hand, and by Alfred Migsch, member of the executive committee of the Austrian Socialist Party, on the other.

Said Dr. Maleta: "The Socialists favor the complete socialization of Austria's basic industries, as their party program attests, and they have frankly declared that their motivation is definitely political. The aim of the Socialists is to establish the Socialist state of the future through nationalization and expansion of already nationalized industries! These totalitarian objectives of the Socialists would torpedo the creation of a politically uninfluenced money and capital market as well as any subsequent encouragement of national savings, both of which are extremely important goals for Austria which foreign experts have repeatedly characterized as imperative. In the cultural field, too, the policy pursued by the Socialists is merely one of pure power politics and totalitarianism; on the question of housing etc., they seek sole political power through the state."

Dr. Migsch, however, saw Austria's problems in a different light: "As long as Austria is occupied, we must pursue an economic policy which will to some extent satisfy the

broad masses of the people. In the past few months an economic ideology has asserted itself in the ranks of the People's Party which has its origins in the inertia and inherent inertness of the cartels and banking trusts, and which would thus paralyze all real economic freedom. A victory of this ideology would check further expansion of the economy, create unemployment and postpone meeting the housing needs of the broad masses to the Greek Calends. Such a policy would open the door to the system of 'popular democracy'! Austria's policy should be firmly anchored in the fact that we must fight for our liberty day in day out! A strong Socialist Party is the safest rampart the Austrian people can erect against these dangers."

**UNDERSECRETARY GRAF CHARGES COMMUNISTS USING FOREIGN FUNDS FOR CAMPAIGN PROPAGANDA.** At an election rally in Vienna at the end of January, Undersecretary of State Graf (People's Party) said that the tremendous sums of money which the "People's Opposition" (i.e. Communist-dominated ticket-Ed.) was spending on election propaganda could not have come from Austrian sources. He charged that a foreign power was footing the bill for this propaganda calculated to serve the interests of a foreign power.

**RUSSIANS ATTEMPT TO DENY FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY DURING CURRENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN.** In mid-January the district leaders of the political parties in Krems, Lower Austria, were notified by the district administration that "on orders from Soviet military headquarters in Krems, no public gatherings within the administrative district of Krems may henceforth be held unless prior approval is obtained from Soviet headquarters."

Austrian law requires that the competent state authorities must be informed of all public gatherings before they are held. Election meetings, however, are specifically exempt from this provision. By making this exception, the law intended to guarantee full freedom of electioneering, without any restrictions or hindrance.

The "Arbeiter Zeitung" commented as follows on the Russian interference: "This order is in violation of the Control Agreement and of the Austrian Constitution, which guarantees completely free elections."

**LEAGUE OF INDEPENDENTS WOULD JOIN A COALITION GOVERNMENT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, SAYS DEPUTY KRAUS.** The "Oberoesterreichischen Nachrichten" recently reported that Dr. Herbert Kraus, former National Chairman of the League of Independents (see AUSTRIAN INFORMATION bulletin V/21 of November 8, 1952), stated at an election meeting of the Social Regeneration Movement (campaign coalition of the League of Independents and the Movement for Political Regeneration - Ed.) that the League of Independents would be prepared to join a coalition government after the election if agreement were reached not only on cabinet appointments but also on a feasible government program.

Deputy Kraus outlined the following six-point program as

one that would be acceptable to the League in the event that his party were to enter a coalition government:

1. Intensification of exports, to be preceded by a reduction of bureaucratic red tape in connection with foreign trade;
2. Rational utilization of ERP aid, conversion of ERP allocations into export orders of the same scope;
3. Contraction of foreign loans for the financing of major projects, especially in the field of electric power, and continuation of parkway construction;
4. Raising of domestic funds for increased investments;
5. An economic policy designed to promote production and investment incentive;
6. A change in the credit policy, calculated to benefit small and medium-sized businesses and thus increase their productivity.

#### **Fair Election Campaign and Signing of Evacuation Protocol**

Dr. Kraus asked for a fair election campaign, adding that his party would set a good example in this respect. The Social Regeneration Movement did not intend to attack the coalition parties as such, but rather the spirit which motivated their policies.

In the field of foreign affairs, he said that the League of Independents would agree to a policy of neutrality only if such neutrality could also be defended, and this in turn was possible solely within the framework of a united Western Europe that was armed. The League did not so much favor a State Treaty as a simple Evacuation Protocol.

#### **COLLABORATION WITH VdU POSSIBLE ONLY ON UNEQUIVOCAL ANTI-MARXIST BASIS, SAYS PEOPLE'S PARTY LEADER.**

Commenting on his party's relations with the League of Independents (VdU), People's Party leader Julius Raab said at a recent election meeting: "We are prepared to broaden the basis of the government if the VdU gives undeniable evidence of being an anti-Marxist party and does not show noticeable pro-Socialist leanings, as was the case in the Presidential elections (May 27, 1951 - Ed.), when Communist Deputy Fischer said, and not without justification: 'To right and left, with might and main, the VdU was cleft in twain!' (So sah man zur Rechten wie zur Linken, einen halben VdU-Mann heruntersinken!'). The fact is that the People's Party is the party of Austria. It is the easternmost position against Communism and rejects any union, either with the East or the North."

#### **PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN AUSTRIA SINCE 1919 REFLECT LITTLE CHANGE IN COMPARATIVE PARTY STRENGTH.**

The following survey of election results in the seven parliamentary elections held in Austria since the establishment of the Republic is of some interest in view of the forthcoming nation-wide elections on February 22. The political developments since 1919 reflected in these figures indicate that the comparative party strength has remained relatively constant.

*Elections of 1919* — Christian-Social Party: 1,068,382 votes (36% of the total vote) or 63 seats in Parliament; Social-Democratic Party: 1,211,814 (41%) or 69 seats; National German parties: 617,984 (21%) or 25 seats; minor parties: 75,274 (2%) or 2 seats.

*Elections of 1920, 1921 and 1922.* (Because of unsettled border issues at the time, the parliamentary elections had to be held in three stages, i.e. in 1920 throughout most of Austria, the following year in Carinthia and in 1922 in the Burgenland) — Christian-Social Party: 1,245,531 (42%) or 85 seats; Social-Democratic Party: 1,072,709 (36%) or 69 seats; National German parties: 514,127 (17%) or 28 seats; minor parties: 147,961 (5%) or 1 seat.

*Elections of 1923* — Christian-Social Party: 1,490,870 (45%) or 82 seats; Social-Democratic Party: 1,311,870 (40%) or 68 seats; National German parties: 422,600 (13%) or 15 seats; minor parties: 87,266 (3%), no seats.

*Elections of 1927* — Unity Ticket (Christian-Social Party, Pan-Germanist People's Party and a number of minor groups): 1,753,346 (49%) or 85 seats; Social-Democratic Party: 1,539,088 (42%) or 71 seats; "Landsbund" (a liberal farm party with Pan-Germanist leanings): 229,977 (6%) or 9 seats; minor parties: 114,301 (3%), no seats.

*Elections of 1930* — Christian-Social Party: 1,314,956 (36%) or 66 seats; Social-Democratic Party: 1,517,251 (41%) or 72 seats; "Schober Bloc" (Pan-Germanist Party and Landbund): 428,255 (12%) or 19 seats; "Heimwehr Bloc" (joint ticket of various "Home Defense" groups and organizations with authoritarian political principles): 227,401 (6%) or 8 seats; minor parties: 200,310 (5%), no seats.

*Elections of 1945* — Austrian People's Party (heir to the Christian-Social Party, but with fewer clerical overtones): 1,602,227 (50%) or 85 seats; Socialist Party of Austria: 1,434,898 (45%) or 76 seats; Communist Party of Austria: 174,257 (5%) or 4 seats.

*Elections of 1949* — Austrian People's Party: 1,846,581 (44%) or 77 seats; Socialist Party of Austria: 1,623,524 (39%) or 67 seats; Leftist Bloc (Communist Party and Left-wing Socialists): 213,066 (5%) or 5 seats; League of Independents (heir to the former German-Nationalist groups): 489,273 (12%) or 16 seats.

For a better understanding of the above figures on the popular vote and the number of parliamentary mandates received by these parties, it should be kept in mind that in 1919 the number of seats in the Austrian Parliament totalled 159; in 1920-1922 there were 183 seats and since 1923 the number has remained unchanged at 165 seats.

An evaluation of these election returns since World War I indicates that the leading middle-class party (formerly, the Christian-Social Party; today, the Austrian People's Party) polled an average of 42% of the popular vote, the Socialist Party 40% and the German-Nationalist groups (whose following before World War II is not unlike that of the League of Independents today) 14.5%. The balance of 3.5% was distributed among various splinter groups, the strongest of which since 1945 has been the Communist Party (Leftist Bloc).

#### **193,000 PERSONS GRANTED AUSTRIAN CITIZENSHIP SINCE 1945.**

Between the establishment of the Second Republic in 1945 and September 30, 1952, Austria has granted citizenship to 193,394 heads of families and other persons residing in the country. This figure does not include the thousands of wives and children who were likewise naturalized. Vienna led the nation with 74,149 naturalizations.



### FOREIGN MINISTER GRUBER ATTACKS LEAGUE OF INDEPENDENTS ON QUESTION OF AUSTRIAN UNITY.

Foreign Minister Karl Gruber told an election rally in Lower Austria at the end of January that the press statement issued by the Social Regeneration Movement against him could not obscure the fact that the speakers of the League of Independents in the Western provinces of Austria were recommending a policy which places the interests of Germany above those of Austria. These speakers were constantly demanding that Austria pattern her policy on that of Western Germany, thus disregarding completely the fact that Austria had to take into account the question of national unity.

A few days earlier the policy board of the Social Regeneration Movement had taken issue with Dr. Gruber's accusations that the League of Independents "was pursuing a policy contrary to Austrian unity," in a statement in which he said: "Assertions of this kind reflect an unfair election maneuver. The program of the independent election ticket calls for Austria's political regeneration and economic rehabilitation, as well as for the earliest possible restoration of our country's complete independence."

In his speech, Dr. Gruber further stated that Germany did not need futile talk; what she needed was sincere friendship, which Austria was trying to build. The League of Independents did have some thoughtful men who were trying to make a constructive contribution to Austria's overall policy. Dr. Gruber expressed the hope that the opinions of these men would prevail in the League's councils. He added, however, that the moderate wing with which cooperation was possible had not yet asserted itself over the political adventurers who were pursuing a line contrary to Austria's interests.

**PEOPLE'S PARTY CAMPAIGN PLATFORM CALLS FOR SOUND STABILIZATION POLICY AND ELIMINATION OF POLITICS FROM ECONOMIC DECISIONS.** The election platform of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP), which was released on January 10, stated in its preamble that the party's political and economic principles were based on the heritage of freedom of the European family of nations. The details of the platform follow:

1. The Austrian People's Party demands that the country be granted its freedom and that the occupation troops be withdrawn. In past years, the party has been the only reliable bulwark against the tidal flood of Communism, and this would continue to be the case because Socialism lacked the inner strength to resist Bolshevism, due to its Marxist origin and collectivistic thinking.

Our concept of freedom, the ÖVP election manifesto read, embraces personal, political and economic freedom, as well as freedom of conscience. Constitutional freedom requires that the administration of justice be divorced from politics and that there be a recognized sphere of activity free from political influence. Economic freedom requires the removal of all forms of terror and political intimidation from the labor market.

#### Stable Currency to Subdue the Spectre of Inflation

2. Our entire economic policy should be so planned as to raise the standard of living, achieve and maintain full employment and assure employment for our young people.

3. The successful reconstruction of our economy between 1945 and 1951 had to be achieved in the face of a creeping devaluation of the currency, and that is why the People's Party favors a carefully thought-out stabilization policy which will subdue the spectre of inflation.

4. Inasmuch as the devaluation of the currency has been responsible for the rise in unemployment, inflation must be fought with utmost determination by maintaining a stable currency.

5. Increased productivity is necessary and must be rewarded by commensurate compensation.

6. Since it has been proved that only the finished-goods and export industries can create permanent employment possibilities for those who lose their jobs in other industries or in the public administration because of payroll cutbacks, these branches of industry must receive more effective support.

7. The nationalized enterprises must not be operated on principles of partisan power politics, but in accordance with strict commercial practices and social considerations. We demand that all political influence be removed from our economic life. We favor international trade and exchange of services within the framework of the European economy, and demand that government interference with foreign trade be reduced.

#### Measures to Promote Long-range Savings and Accumulation of Capital

8. Social-security benefits must be maintained, and if possible increased; strict economy must be exercised in the administration of the various social insurance funds.

9. Agriculture must be modernized and rational production methods increased to meet the food requirements of the nation.

10. We favor a tax reduction on wages and income so as to encourage long-range savings and the accumulation of wealth acquired through honest labor, in order to counteract the power aspirations of Marxism in the economic field.

11. We recognize everyone's right to decent housing.

12. We favor equal rights for all citizens and the abrogation of all contrary legislation - something which has hitherto been impossible because of opposition on the part of the Occupying Powers.

### SOCIALIST CAMPAIGN PLATFORM CALLS FOR FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL BURDENS AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS FOR ALL AUSTRIANS.

On January 6, 1953, the Socialist Party of Austria announced its campaign platform for the parliamentary elections to be held on February 22. The four major planks of the platform are the struggle against Communism, a reduction of the burdens imposed by the occupation, an assured economic future for the country and a fair distribution of the national income.

In its appeal to the electorate, the Socialist Party assigned top priority to the struggle against the threat of Communist dictatorship and to the defense of Austria's freedom against the unbearable burdens of the occupation. The despoliation of the country's mineral wealth and raw materials, the seizure of plants and housing facilities, the revenue from taxes and customs duties of which the state was being defrauded by the USIA (Soviet-controlled) enterprises and the heavy assessments being imposed to defray the costs of occupation were costing the Austrian people some 2,500,000,000

schillings a year (over 100,000,000 dollars-Ed.). Were this tribute not exacted, the Socialist platform contends, taxes levied on the salaries of the working people could be reduced and old-age pensions increased.

#### **New Budget and Investment Policy Will Reduce Unemployment**

The Socialist Party further demanded that there be a just distribution of the national burden now imposed upon Austria, with those in a strong economic position made to bear a greater share than those who have less. In Austria, the lords of industry and cartel directors have thrown their political support to the Austrian People's Party (OVP) and to the League of Independents (VDU). If the Socialists had their way, the party's manifesto went on to declare, this election would be fought on the basic issue of whether Austria's political economy should be geared to a gradual but constant reduction of unemployment, to the creation of job possibilities for the younger generation, the establishment of national pensions for the aged and the construction of decent housing for all. Whether these things should be guaranteed to the Austrian people is at the bottom of the current dispute on the budget and investment policy the country should adopt.

The platform also stated that the Socialist Party favors guaranteeing Austria a sound economic future by farsighted measures for developing the nation's productive means, particularly its mineral and water-power resources. Such increase in productivity would ensure a stable currency and increase the national income, which should then be equitably distributed to raise the standard of living of the working population in the cities and on the land. Efforts should be made to increase social-security benefits and establish a federal pension for all Austrians. Every citizen should be entitled to a decent job.

Agricultural output should be raised through increased use of modern farming techniques, soil improvement and modernization of agricultural machinery. Appropriate land reform measures should be designed to strengthen farm ownership among working farmers and keep farm workers on the land. Legislation for the protection of tenant farmers should be re-enacted.

#### **Democratic Education and Incorporation of Austria into a Free Europe**

The state should provide equal educational opportunities for all children in a democratic system of education designed to build free citizens. This does not mean that children should be removed from the influence of the home. In fact, the Socialists believe that the family must be strengthened and protected by reforming antiquated social legislation as it affects the family, providing decent housing and extending social welfare benefits.

In the field of foreign policy, the Socialist platform stated that the paramount aim should be the incorporation of Austria into a united and democratic Europe and her admission to the community of free nations. On the home front, everything should be done to protect human rights and expand the country's democratic institutions.

**JEWISH COMMUNISTS QUIT RED ORGANIZATION IN VIENNA.** "Die Presse" recently reported that at the end of January a majority of the members of the "Jewish Unity" front organization, a rallying point for Jewish Communist voters, broke with the two left-wing radical leaders Michael Kohn and Akim Levit. With the words, "He who votes for the Communists, votes for Jewry's hangmen," the leading persons of the organization announced that they would campaign against the Communist-dominated "People's Opposition" ticket in the current election campaign. Their action is a direct result of the anti-Jewish persecutions now being organized in the People's Democracies. The group issued a leaflet declaring that Communism in its present-day aspect is no different from Nazism.

Since the number of former Jewish Communist voters in Vienna's 4th election district is reliably estimated at 800, political circles in the Austrian capital believe that the Communist Party now stands to lose its basic mandate in this district as a result of this defection from its "Jewish Unity" front organization.

**DR. KOGON SPEAKS IN VIENNA AT R.I.C.E.P.** At the end of January, Dr. Eugen Kogon, leader of the European Movement in Western Germany, delivered a lecture in Vienna's concert house on "The Spirit and Society of Our Time." His appearance was jointly sponsored by the Austrian College and the Research Institute for Contemporary European Problems (Forschungsinstitut fuer Gegenwartskunde).

**AUGARTEN PORCELAIN INDUSTRY TO BUILD NEW PLANT.** According to a recent report from Austria, the Augarten porcelain industry, most of whose shares are owned by the Municipality of Vienna, will begin work this spring on the construction of a new plant. The latter is scheduled to start production in the fall, which is expected to result in a greater output of tableware and in the manufacture of inexpensive articles for homes and restaurants.

**AUSTRIAN AND TRIESTE ECONOMIC EXPERTS DISCUSS INTENSIFICATION OF TRADE.** In mid-January, an economic conference was held in Velden, Carinthia, to discuss problems affecting trade relations between Trieste and Austria. Among the experts who attended were Antonio Cosulich, President of the Trieste Chamber of Commerce, and Deputy Roth, President of the Carinthian Chamber of Commerce, who represented the Austrian Government. The representatives from Trieste emphasized the importance of the Austrian hinterland to the port of Trieste and expressed the desire to see commercial relations between the two areas facilitated and the volume of trade expanded.

**CAMPING HOTELS ESTABLISHED IN AUSTRIA.** The first camping hotel in Austria was recently opened at Imst in the Tyrol at the "Hohe Warte" boarding house, with a second camping hotel now in the process of being built. Both of these hotels will offer completely self-contained family apartments housing four to six persons each. These camping apartments are complete vacation homes and each is equipped with a kitchenette. The first foreign tourist to avail themselves of these facilities had high praise for the new accommodations which they said offered every possible comfort.



## AUSTRIAN TRADE BULLETIN

Published by the Austrian Trade Delegate  
31 E. 69 St. • New York 21, N.Y. • Tel: LE 5-3335

### I.C.C. - VIENNA - MAY 1953

Removal of international trade restrictions, convertibility of currencies, and European integration as a factor for world peace and prosperity will be some of the themes at the fourteenth biennial congress of the International Chamber of Commerce scheduled to take place in Austria's capital from May 18 through 23. It will be the first large-scale international convention after the change of administration in this country, and economic circles here and abroad are looking forward to full discussion of possible new trends, procedures and necessities. Its slogan will be "World Trade is Everybody's Business."

Vienna was chosen following an invitation extended to the international organization at the 1951 I.C.C. Congress in Lisbon by the chairman of the I.C.C.'s Austrian National Committee, Ing. Julius Raab, former Austrian cabinet member. Approximately 800 delegates from 40 countries are expected to come to the Vienna meeting.

The agenda provides for four "working groups" (panel sessions) to discuss "Economy and Currency", "Distribution, Production and Publicity", "Transportation and Telecommunications," and "Legal Policy and Trade Practices," respectively. Within the group deliberations special attention is expected to be given to such matters as economic development and private enterprise, streamlining of distribution methods and higher standards of living, international agreements on road and rail transportation, international protection of industrial property, technical problems of international banking, and removal of obstacles in the way of international commercial publicity. Austria's Secretary of the Treasury, Professor Dr. Reinhard Kamitz, is scheduled to address the Congress during the plenary discussion on the general theme of economic stability in the light of raw-material surpluses and shortages. In Austria's strenuous efforts to attain economic stability, Prof. Dr. Kamitz has long been an ardent supporter of those economic principles for which the International Chamber of Commerce stands.

It is expected that one of the most interesting discussions at the Congress will center on the question of European economic integration. In this connection, the Congress may have to decide on the creation of a special European continental committee, composed of the chairmen of the national I.C.C. committees. A similar commission for Asiatic member countries, established recently, was scheduled to meet in January in Calcutta, India. The Vienna Congress will also discuss in detail matters of economic development in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The goal is not only free trade between nations, but free trade between continents.

**AUSTRIA LOWERS DISCOUNT RATE.** Shortly before "Austrian Trade Bulletin" went to press, a report from Vienna stated that the Austrian National Bank has decided to lower its discount rate from 6 to 5½ per cent. This was immediately followed by a decision of the Association of Austrian Banks and Bankers to reduce credit charges to Austrian trade and industry by one full per cent. The margins between the discount rate of the National Bank and the actual credit cost to the customer and the interest rate on savings accounts (which has not changed) are now the same as prior to World War II — a significant sign of economic improvement.

**FILES WITH SLITS BETWEEN THE TEETH** are a new tool being offered from Austria. The new file is particularly suited to work on leather, rubber, putty, insulating material, bakelite, etc. The slits between the file's teeth prevent clogging. In order to make the new tool economical, the file blades are easily exchangeable. For ordinary use the new slit-file blades are mass-manufactured on a punching machine, in which connection a new Austrian manufacturing process makes sharpening unnecessary. For surfaces such as sand castings, or other surfaces that show hard spots (such as grey-castings), slit-file blades made of special alloy and chrome steel are available. The manufacturer stated that his chrome steel slit-file blades will handle annealed spring steel as though it were soft pig iron. The manufacturing of the new Austrian file blade for use in automatic filing, planing or cutting equipment is planned (1412).

**OUT OF THE HEART OF VIENNA**, where the world's most fabulous knitted wear is made, Austria's textile industry has come forth with novel and original fashions. Austrian sweaters, dresses and stoles are finding great favor wherever they are sold, generally in the finest stores, all over the United States (1414).

---

Readers are invited to reprint or quote material from  
**AUSTRIAN TRADE BULLETIN**

---

Headquarters of the International Chamber of Commerce has received a suggestion by the Austrian national committee to supplement I.C.C.'s regional structure by international industrial and trade organizations, and to admit certain existing international organizations into the I.C.C. organization. The Austrian committee pointed out that such domestically fully integrated industrial and trade groups have long been operating in Austria successfully, and that extension of this system to the international field might eliminate much waste of effort and money. It was learned that a preliminary discussion of the Austrian plan was scheduled for the Paris meeting of I.C.C.'s administrative council on February 24.

Representatives of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, of the World Bank, and the International Organization for the Protection of Industrial Property have also been invited to attend the I.C.C. Congress in Vienna.

**VIENNA FAIR MARCH 15-22.** Vienna's International Spring Trade Fair will, as usual, be held at the Messepalast (Fair Palace) and at the Rotundengelaende (Fair Grounds, where heavy machinery will be on display), both in the City of Vienna. As always, the Fair will show many new developments in almost all fields of Austrian trade and industry. Visitors from the United States who are American citizens need not obtain an Austrian visa. If the trip to Vienna is made by air, no travel documents other than an American passport are needed. Fair visitors wishing to enter Austria by road or railroad should obtain a "Grey Card" either before leaving the United States or in Europe. Information in this connection, and travel assistance concerning visits to the Vienna Fair, may be obtained from the Austrian State Tourist Department, 48 East 48th Street, New York City, Telephone MUrray Hill 8-0355. A limited number of free Vienna Spring Fair passes are available upon request at the Office of the Austrian Trade Delegate, 31 East 69th Street, New York City. Vienna Fair passes entitle the holder to a 20% reduction at Vienna's world-famous state theaters. They also authorize the holder to obtain a 25% reduction on Austria's railways for the round-trip between the Austrian frontier and Vienna.

**WHEEL REPLACEMENT TOOL FROM AUSTRIA.** An invention to make the changing of wheels easier on light and heavy vehicles is reported from Austria. It is a tool, weighing only 8 lbs., which can be handled by a single person. With it, according to the inventor's claims, the heaviest types of truck and trailer wheels, including tandem and twin wheels, can be changed without trouble and without damage to the screw thread or wheel bolts. Tests have proved that even after more than 100 wheel dismantlings and remountings, the thread of the bolts and nuts remains in perfect condition. No alteration on the vehicle is necessary to apply the new tool. Prices are said to be less than the cost of five or six new wheel bolts (1413).

**AUSTRIAN EXPORTS PASS BILLION-SCHILLING MARK.** In November 1952 Austria's exports reached a new high with 1,027 million Austrian schillings — the first time the billion schilling mark was reached and surpassed. In the same month, Austria's imports amounted to 884 million schillings — thus leaving a favorable balance of 143 million schillings.

**AUSTRIAN SAVINGS DEPOSITS MOUNTING.** Austria's determined anti-inflation policy has resulted in public confidence in the Austrian schilling. This, in turn, has led to a tremendous increase of individual savings accounts deposits, the Austrian Institute for Economic Research reported. For 1951, Austrian savings banks reported a combined total of 77 million schillings in new savings deposits. In 1952, the amount of new savings was more than one billion Austrian schillings — an increase of more than 1,200 per cent. The report also pointed out that 1952 marked an end to the destructive price-wage spiral and that, in spite of some tax and



*Published from Coast to Coast, Trans World Airline's Picture Shows Two-Year-Old John Price Booth on Last Leg of Air Trip Home from Europe to Indianapolis, Sporting Fashionable Holiday Suit "Alpine Style" (Picture courtesy TWA).*

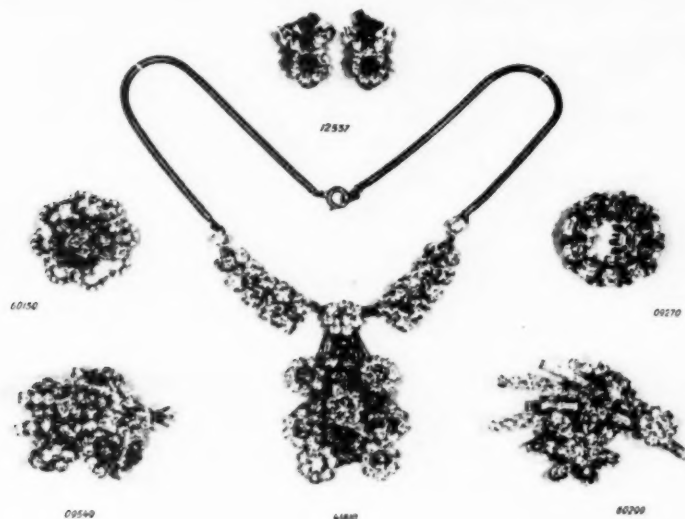
tariff increases, the wholesale and cost-of-living index decreased by 6.4 and 1 per cent, respectively. Significantly, the report emphasizes, the "black market" exchange rate for the Austrian schilling in relation to foreign currencies dropped by 14.8 per cent as compared to 1951. Austria's production in 1952 was slightly higher than in 1951, although construction work, which had been accelerated beyond the normal level current in 1951 and before, decreased by approximately six per cent. Austria's agriculture marketed five per cent more meat, seven per cent more milk, and 47 per cent more bread grains than the preceding year — an achievement due mainly to sufficient feed imports.

**ULTRASONIC PRODUCT TESTING.** An Austrian firm has developed a new non-destructive ultrasonic device for materials testing. Originally developed for the testing in series of massive porcelain insulators and powdered metallurgical products to determine sintering grade and hidden defects such as cavities and flaws, the apparatus is now also being used for the evaluation of corrosion on the inside of boiler walls and autoclaves. While existing ultrasonic devices suffered from the fact that flaws running parallel to the direction of the ultrasonic beam were often not detected, the new "Poro-



test" method signals such defects including, for instance, radial flaws in locomotive axles. Advantages of the Austrian apparatus include (apart from the fact that the object to be tested is not destroyed) immediate results, possibility of testing all objects quickly so as to avoid "sampling", and very simple and therefore economical use. Inquiries should be addressed to the Office of the Austrian Trade Delegate in New York (1416).

**AUSTRIAN NICKEL SULPHATE.** The shipment of ten tons of nickel sulphate of Austrian origin was contracted recently for, according to news received from an American firm. The manufacture of nickel sulphate in Austria is only of very recent date, and production is still low. No large quantities of this chemical are therefore expected to be available for export in the near future.



*More Costume Jewelry is coming from Austria than ever before (1387)*

**ALUMINUM PRODUCTS FROM AUSTRIA.** One of Austria's leading producers of aluminum semi-manufactures and finished goods informed the Austrian Trade Delegate that he wishes to contact a reliable and preferably large American firm in order to organize nation-wide distribution of Austrian aluminum manufactures (1415).

**GIFT SHIPMENTS TO AUSTRIA.** American senders of gift shipments to Austria have frequently inquired at the Office of the Austrian Trade Delegate whether a way exists to pre-pay customs duties in those cases where the articles sent to Austria are subject to customs duties. This applies chiefly to shipments of such articles as refrigerators, sewing machines, washing machines, and other goods which cannot be classified as duty-exempt gifts. Information now received from Vienna states that the only way to pre-pay customs duties is for the American sender to transmit the amount necessary for duty payments to the Austrian recipient. Austrian recipients of shipments from abroad, regardless of their nature, must obtain an import license if the value of the shipment exceeds 1,000 Austrian schillings (approximately

\$46.00). No distinction, as far as customs duties are concerned, is made between new and used goods. (cf. Austrian Trade Bulletins of December 5 — concerning "Imports of used Goods into Austria" and October 25 — concerning "Gift Parcels to Austria")



*Accordion from Austria (1411)*

#### **TRADE LEADS.** An Austrian firm:

- 1388 - offers abrasive honing and grinding tools for metal-, iron-and steel-working machinery;
- 1389 - offers odorless paraffin-gas heating and cooking apparatus, without wick, pump or jet;
- 1390 - offers office supplies, staplers, file clips, folding file covers, card-index indicators, etc.;
- 1391 - offers bobby pins, hair pins, hair ornaments, combs;
- 1392 - offers perfume atomizers, toilet sets, glass perfume bottles with metal screw-caps, petit-point embroidered perfume bottles with gilt filigree decorations;
- 1393 - offers glass buttons, costume jewelry, imitation stones, rhinestone handbags, chandelier parts;
- 1394 - Autogenous welding and cutting equipment joint planers; rust-removing burners; gas blow-pipes, annealing equipment; autogenous cutting machines, all sizes; separating plant for the manufacture of oxygen, nitrogen and compressed air; case-hardening plant; special gas producing plant; pressure regulators for oxygen, nitrogen, compressed air and special gas;
- 1395 - offers molybdenum wire for mining lamps;
- 1396 - offers pumps of all types - hand-operated pumps, household pumps, irrigation pumps, motor-operated pumps for fire extinguishing apparatus; water fittings, sheet metal shears, sheet metal working machines;
- 1397 - offers glass abrasive grinding machines, glass drilling machines (for glass, ceramic, stone and marble), glass cutters, glaziers' tools, diamond abrasive disks, glass drills, diamond tools;
- 1398 - offers hamp and flax fire hose;

- 1399 - offers saws and saw-blades for manual and machine woodworking; industrial machine knives;
- 1400 - offers paper makers' felts, paper machine wires, galvanized wire netting (hexagonal), wire gauze, electrically welded and galvanized field fencing;
- 1401 - offers electric hand drills with forged table stands, electric table and pillar-drilling machines, electric meat grinding machines;
- 1402 - offers steel and metal-spraying equipment, sand blasters, drums;
- 1403 - offers combination cooking and central-heating ranges, thermal boilers;
- 1404 - offers automatic locks, electric baling presses, washing machines, heavy-duty hydraulic metal-cutting machines, precision circular disk grinders, plane knife grinding machines, angle cutters, filter presses, sluice boards;
- 1405 - offers boiler brushes, pipe and tube brushes, scouring brushes, watchmakers' brushes, circular brushes for high-speed work;
- 1406 - offers sweaters, cardigans, swim suits, shawls;
- 1407 - offers embroideries for lingerie, handkerchiefs, curtains, etc.;
- 1408 - offers cotton poplin shirtings, ladies' dress materials, raincoat materials;
- 1409 - offers embroideries of all kinds, embroidered cotton piece-goods with cotton or artificial silk embroidery; handkerchiefs; laces of all kinds;
- 1410 - offers supersonic apparatus;
- 1411 - offers piano accordions and helikon-harmonicas in outstanding quality;
- 5075 - seeks patents, processes, services, and techniques for the production in Austria of food-packaging machines, confectionery-wrapping machines, cellophane-wrapping machines, and tobacco-processing and packaging machinery;
- 5076 - seeks American firm to take over license for the production in the United States of an apparatus for determining basal metabolic rate (BMR), which operates with a water-sealed spirometer instead of rubber bellows, and is said to increase accuracy and afford better control over results;
- 5077 - seeks experienced sales representative for Vienna polishing lime;
- 5078 - seeks agent for grinding wheels and other abrasive products;
- 5079 - seeks distributor for high and low tension insulators;
- 5080 - seeks contact with organization interested in new school gymnastic apparatus.

While every reasonable precaution is taken to include only firms of good repute in this listing, the usual trade inquiries should be made before establishing business connections. Names and addresses of the above listed inquiries will be communicated upon request by

**THE AUSTRIAN TRADE DELEGATE**  
31 East 69th St., 5th fl., New York 21, N.Y.  
TELEPHONE: LEhigh 5-3335

## AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

*Published by the Information Department of  
THE AUSTRIAN CONSULATE GENERAL*

31 EAST 69th STREET • NEW YORK 21, N.Y. • TELEPHONE: LEHIGH 5-4120



Librarian:  
Mont. State Univ.  
Missoula, Mont.